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INFORMATION REPORT

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BY CABLE

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The following is a summary of information on Soviet Air force activities and airfields in East Germany received prior to 25 October:

1. Bomber Units: The strength of the IL-28 units in East Germany remained apparently unchanged. Aviation fuel continued to arrive at the bomber airfields directly from the Boehlen and Ruhland plants. A Soviet truck driver reportedly stated on 16 October that Oranienburg airfield would be occupied by 30 jet bombers from the USSR in about three weeks.¹
2. Fighter Units: The following numbers of MiG-15's and U-MiG-15's were counted outside their hangars: 24 at Neuruppin on 15 October, 37 at Koethen on 7 October; 32 at Wittstock on 15 October, 23 at Justerbog on 7 October and 56 at Finow on 8 October. Comparatively little flying activity was noted at the fighter airfields.
3. Transport Units: Sixteen LI-2's, four PO-2's and one LI-12 were observed at Schoenefeld airfield on 7 October while 19 LI-2's and five helicopters were noted at Neubrandenburg.
4. Ground Attack Units: About 18 IL-10's from an undetermined airfield landed at Doeberitz airfield on 12 October. They were no longer observed there on 16 October. Brandenburg-Industriehafen airfield was occupied by 34 IL-10's on 18 October. Preparations for the re-occupation of Brandis airfield were underway on 16 October. The fuel installations were being refilled from 16 railroad tank cars. An advance detail of 130 to 150 men of an expected occupation force of 800 to 1000 men had reportedly arrived. Two PO-2's were observed flying in the vicinity of Schoenewalde airfield during evening hours in the period of 8 to 18 October. The flights lasted about one hour.²
5. Airfield Construction:
 - a. Vietmannsdorf Airfield: Efforts were concentrated on widening of the southwestern

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runway the concreting of which was to be completed by 20 November. The work on the dispersal areas was to be completed by 21 December. Full shifts were working on Saturdays and Sundays. Five hundred workers are to remain at the airfield during the winter months.

- b. Bautzen Airfield: Work on designs for a concrete runway was suspended in early October.
 - c. Tutow Airfield: The runway was completed in early September. The taxiway is now under construction. A total of fourteen buildings have been constructed in 1954.
 - d. Alt Loennewitz Airfield: Expansion work is scheduled to start in January 1955.
 - e. Querfurt: Construction workers started to arrive at the construction site on 11 October. A thirteen kilometer long spur track was to be completed before the end of the year.
6. Arrival of Recruits: A total of 700 recruits arrived at the Richthofen Kaserne in Doeberitz on 20 October and 200 on 22 October. An undetermined number arrived at the NSKK Kaserne. The departure of personnel was not observed.³

Comments:

- 1. According to earlier reports, Oranienburg airfield was not to be occupied in 1954 because of the poor condition of the runway.
- 2. Schoenewalde airfield has been occupied by a small unit equipped with PO-2's since early September.
- 3. Probably recruits for the air force technical schools.

Comment: The air units returned to their home bases after the completion of the army fall maneuvers. Air activity has been considerably reduced.

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